

[4 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) whether there is any long term plan to increase SAIL's presence and market share in special and alloy steel market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)'s Corporate Plan envisaged a tentative investment of Rs. 37,000 crore towards expansion and modernization. The schemes of individual steel plants are getting firmed up based on composite feasibility reports. Eventually investment and proposed capacity is slated to go up compared to targets earlier envisaged. The tantative project investment based on feasibility reports will be known only after firming up of schemes by all the plants and their approval by SAIL Board.

The share of alloy and special steel plants in the overall investment is tantatively about Rs. 2200 crore.

(c) To improve its market presence in the alloy and special steels market, SAIL hasxrawn out expansion.plans for its special steels plants at Alloy Steel Plant (ASP), Salem Steel Plant (SSP) and Visvesvaraya Iron Steel Plant (VISL). After implematation of the expansion plan, the total production of saleable steel from these units will increase from a level of around 4.5 lakh tonnes during 2006-07 to around 10 lakh tonnes of saleable steel.

**Setting up of a Steel Plant in Jharkhand by a Chinese Company**

†3345. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from any company of China to set up steel plants in Jharkhand or in any other State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the views of Government thereto?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) As per information made available by Embassy of India, Beijing, Sinosteel Corporation of China has approached the Government of Jharkhand for setting up an integrated steel plant in the State. However, no Memorandum of Understanding has been signed in this regard, as yet.

(c) As per the Government's policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) upto 100% is permitted in the steel sector under the automatic route where no prior approval is required.

#### **Requirements of Small and Medium Industries**

3346. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government meet the 100 per cent requirements of small and medium industries for their steel needs as per their specifications; and

(b) if not, whether Government plan to take corrective measures in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Small Scale Industry sector have the option to procure steel material as per their choice either through the Corporations (State Small Industries Corporation and National Small Industries Corporation) or directly from the main producers. Under the scheme for routing the allocation of iron and steel material from main producers to SSI units through Corporations, requirements of steel material as per the specification are met to the extent of production of material, as per rolling plan/schedule, of the main producers and as per the registration made by Corporations with the main producers in advance.